

Message

## ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY REPORT

**From:** Bloomberg  
Environment -  
Environment & Energy  
Report  
[bloomberg@bna.com]  
**Sent:** 1/16/2019 9:04:02 PM  
**To:** Duffy, Rick  
[Duffy.Rick@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** Environment & Energy  
Report Highlights

**Bloomberg  
Environment**

The Environment & Energy Report is brought to you by the EPA National Library Network. Please note, these materials may be copyrighted and should not be forwarded outside of the U.S. EPA. If you have any questions or no longer wish to receive these messages, please email [epalibrarynetwork@epa.gov](mailto:epalibrarynetwork@epa.gov).

## Highlights

[Print/Download These Articles](#)

### LEADING THE NEWS

---

#### Shutdown Slows EPA Rule Rewrites, New Controls, Wheeler Says

By Abby Smith

Work on a number of regulations and Trump administration priorities has slowed to a halt while much of the EPA remains shut down, the agency's acting chief, Andrew Wheeler, admitted to senators.

#### EPA Nominee Wheeler Defends Rollbacks While Pressed on Climate

By Jennifer A. Dlouhy

President Donald Trump's nominee to head the EPA, Andrew Wheeler, defended his efforts to ease environmental regulations in a confirmation

hearing Jan. 16, amid fierce criticism from Senate Democrats insisting that he is leading a dangerous U.S. retreat from the fight against climate change.

### **Wheeler Rebuked for Panning Climate Study After Lone Briefing**

By Dean Scott

President Donald Trump's pick for the EPA's top slot came under fire from a Senate Democrat for saying that a broad 2018 U.S. climate assessment was more a collection of worst-case scenarios than a balanced scientific review.

### **Wasted Money, Idle Students, Stalled Studies With EPA Shuttered**

By Pat Rizzuto

People expect to get something of value when they spend their money. But when taxpayers' income has been spent on research underway at a shuttered agency like EPA, it's like pouring money down a drain, according to retired agency scientists.

### **California Must Manage Forests, Farmland to Meet Climate Goals**

By Emily C. Dooley

California needs to double and in some case quintuple efforts to restore and manage forests, wetlands, and farmlands if it is going to meet its 2030 emission reduction goals, the state says.

## **TODAY'S NEWS**

---

### **Power Plants Won't Remove Mercury Controls, Wheeler Says (1)**

By Amena H. Saiyid

Power plants won't stop controlling mercury pollution after the EPA said the existing requirements were sufficient, the agency's top official told the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee.

### **Wheeler Pushes Back on Reports Claiming Lax EPA Enforcement**

By David Schultz

Acting EPA chief Andrew Wheeler pushed back against recent reports from activist groups that his agency is too lax on those who violate environmental laws, questioning some of the data and claiming enforcement numbers are up.

### EPA Waters Rule on Track Despite Government Shutdown: Wheeler

By David Schultz

An EPA rule to define the scope of the nation's water law is still expected to be written by the end of the year, despite the agency losing nearly a month to the government shutdown, Andrew Wheeler said during his Jan. 16 confirmation hearing to lead the agency.

### Wheeler Touts Superfund 'Success' Before Senate Hearing

By Sylvia Carignan

Acting EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler touted the successes of the Superfund program's cleanup and redevelopment efforts before a Senate committee Jan. 16 as he makes his case for becoming the agency's chief.

### EPA's Strategy for Fluorinated Chemicals Caught Up in Shutdown

By Sylvia Carignan

The EPA's plan for a nationwide strategy to address widespread fluorinated chemicals is the latest action caught up in the federal government shutdown.

### Review Can Wait on Failure to Check Sterilizing Plants: EPA Head (1)

By Amena H. Saiyid

The EPA Region 5's order to halt inspections of facilities emitting carcinogenic ethylene oxide in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin doesn't yet warrant an inspector general investigation, the agency's top official said Jan. 16.

## **Restrictions on Paint Stripper Coming Soon After EPA Reopens**

By Pat Rizzuto

The EPA will restrict uses of the sometimes deadly paint-stripping chemical methylene chloride as soon as possible once the agency receives funding, acting Administrator Andrew Wheeler said Jan. 16.

## **Furloughed EPA Staff Recalled to Work on Lead Dust Standards**

By Pat Rizzuto

The EPA has recalled furloughed staff to finish a final rule revising the agency's standards for lead dust, acting Administrator Andrew Wheeler told a Senate committee Jan. 16.

## **Shutdown May Delay Proposal on High-Ethanol Gasoline: EPA Chief**

By Jennifer A. Dlouhy

The government shutdown could delay an EPA proposal to allow year-round sales of higher-ethanol E15 gasoline, Acting Administrator Andrew Wheeler said at his confirmation hearing Jan. 16.

## **3-D Printers Could Be Used to Build the Next New Nuclear Reactors**

By Bobby Magill

Researchers are exploring ways to use 3-D printing to build a new generation of nuclear reactors, Oak Ridge National Laboratory Director Thomas Zacharia said Jan. 16, speaking at a Senate Appropriations subcommittee hearing.

## **Border Wall Would Harm Environment, House Democrats Told**

By Stephen Lee

President Donald Trump's promised wall along the Mexican border would have serious impacts on the environment, wildlife, and border communities, witnesses told House Democrats Jan. 16.

## **N.J. Cleanup Agreement Shields Company From Superfund Claims**

By Peter Hayes

Carter Day Industries's landfill cleanup agreement with New Jersey shields it from private party Superfund claims, the U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey said.

## **PG&E Warned Investors About Disasters. It Was Mostly Ignored**

By Molly Smith, Emily Chasan, and Janine Wolf

PG&E Corp. told investors repeatedly that weather-related disasters were a risk, but many didn't pay enough attention until the company was on the brink of bankruptcy.

## **EU Lawmakers Call for More Transparent Pesticide Authorizations**

By Stephen Gardner

Pesticide producers could face greater constraints when seeking authorization for their products in the European Union, if European Parliament recommendations go forward.

## **Roundup Products Could See Challenging Future From French Ruling**

By Rick Mitchell

A French nongovernmental organization said it plans to use a recent court decision voiding authorization of glyphosate-based weedkiller Roundup Pro 360 as a template to attack future approvals for other products containing the pesticide.

## **Coffee Farmers Brace for Climate Change Risk to Arabica Crop**

By Jeremy Hodges, Fabiana Batista and Aine Quinn

Coffee farmer Masumi Kondo wrapped himself in a cozy blanket on cool nights in the 1970s when he began growing the crop in the Franca region of Brazil's

Sao Paulo state. Now, thanks to persistently warmer weather, he needs an air conditioner.

## **Utility Giants in Court Fight Over Atomic Rights Worth Billions**

By Karin Matussek, William Wilkes, and Lars Paulsson

EON SE is suing Sweden's Vattenfall AB to get nuclear power generation rights potentially worth more than \$4 billion for free.

## **San Diego Utility Can't Get FERC Coverage for \$31M Investment**

By Porter Wells

San Diego Gas & Electric lost its bid Jan. 15 to get a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission order saying it can fully recoup \$31 million dollars it invested in an energy infrastructure project in Orange County, Calif., if that project later gets terminated or abandoned.

## **NextEra Seeks to Add 30 Million Solar Panels in Florida by 2030**

By Jim Efstathiou Jr.

NextEra Energy Inc.'s Florida utility wants to install 30 million solar panels across the Sunshine State by 2030 and may ask customers to pay for it.

## **Oil Majors Chevron, Total, and Reliance Join Blockchain Venture**

By Andy Hoffman

Oil majors Chevron Corp., Total SA, and Reliance Industries Ltd. are investing in blockchain-backed digital trading platform Vakt Holdings Ltd., signaling more industry buy-in for the technology.

## **Big Oil Targets Plastic Waste Scourge With \$1B Pledge**

By Francois de Beaupuy

U.S. oil giant Exxon Mobil Corp., France's Total SA, and German chemicals maker BASF SE joined dozens of other companies in a \$1 billion pledge to cut plastic waste pollution.

## **Big Plastic's Trash Plan Is Just a Drop in the Polluted Ocean**

By Jack Kaskey

With all those plastic-trash haters filling the Internet with images of garbage-choked oceans and demanding bans on everything from drinking straws to grocery bags, chemical companies are beginning to get alarmed.

## **Illinois Power Can't Show Order Would Force Plant Closure**

By Peter Hayes

Illinois Power Resources Generating LLC couldn't show that a Peoria, Ill., power station would likely be shut down if it were forced to install pollution controls, the U.S. District Court for the Central District of Illinois said.

## **TUESDAY NIGHT WRAPUP**

---

### **Washington State to Push Ambitious Climate Agenda, Governor Says**

By Paul Shukovsky

Washington state must embrace the promise of a post-carbon economy with an ambitious agenda to address climate change that includes more electric vehicles and renewable energy, Gov. Jay Inslee (D) said Jan. 15.

### **Outside Groups Get Legal Standing in Canada Carbon Tax Case**

By James Munson

Over a dozen environmental groups, Indigenous representatives, and health advocates will have their say in court this April in support of Canada's carbon tax.

### **U.S. Joins Suit Alleging Tetra Tech Faked Radioactive Tests**

By Joyce E. Cutler

The federal government joined in a whistleblower action alleging that Tetra Tech EC Inc. falsified data on a radioactive contamination at a former naval shipyard in San Francisco that was developed for housing.

# Bloomberg Environment

1801 South Bell Street, Arlington, VA 22202

Copyright © 2019 The Bureau of National Affairs, Inc. and Bloomberg LP

[Print/Download These Articles](#)

[Manage Your Subscriptions](#)

[Unsubscribe](#)

[Web Version](#)

[Contact Us](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Terms of Service](#)